

**March 25, 1996 Town Assembly for the Village of Arden  
Gild Hall • Arden, Delaware**

**Present:**

Elizabeth Varley	Mamie J. Woolery	Lynne Svenning
Ruth Bean	Virginia Mann	Mary B. Whipple
Lou Bean	Lee Starr	Paul B. Thompson
Jan Westerhouse (NV)	Janine Stearns	Mike Curtis
Liz Resko	Richard L. Bloom	Sharon Kleban
Alex Sykulski	Marianne Cinaglia	Dorinda Dove
Ken Lipstein	Lynda Kolski	Larry C. Walker
Albert Marks	John Stevenson	Connee Wright McKinney
Jim Parks (NV)	Gene Shaw	Peter Renzetti
Hugh Roberts	Judy Butler	Erik Sasse (NCLPA) (NV)
Thomas E. Colgan	Liz Broadbent	Don Holcomb
Marjorie Mabrey	Walter Broadbent	Edward Rohrbach
Jeanne Corman (NV)	Shaul Gladstone	Mary L. Marconi
Roberta Perkins (NV)	Rick Rothrock	Carl Falco
Sally Hamburger	Jean K. Brachman	Tim Colgan
Aaron Hamburger	Bernie Brachman	Irene O'Connor
Rae F. Gerstine	Yvonne King	Steven Threefoot
Helen Macklem	Beverly A. Barnett	Eliot Levin
Frank Kutowicz	Brooke Bovard	Wayne Smith (State Rep) (NV)
Gail Rinehart	Steve Harcourt	Tom Wheeler

1. **Meeting call to order:** Town Assembly Chairperson, Bill Press, and a member of the Registration Committee confirmed that a quorum had been reached.
2. **Agenda Clarification:** Safety Committee Chairperson, Peter Renzetti, described a recent incident at the Buzz Ware Village Center: several teenagers (Arden and non-Arden) were involved in an argument on the basketball court and damage to property followed the argument (a windshield was cracked, a trash can was dumped, and the Sherwood Green was turfed) and some injury to a teenager.

**Guest:** Office Sasse, liaison officer with the New Castle County Police, addressed questions and concerns of the Town Assembly. The incident is still under investigation to find the persons responsible for the damage. He encouraged residents to call the police when suspicious behavior occurs—call daily if necessary. The police are ready to help. The chairperson of the Buzz Ware Village Center Committee mentioned that some parents told her that Arden children did not want to play on the court because of problems there. The person, who reported the incident, reported it a day later and anonymously. The officer assured the Town Assembly that, when an incident is reported by a resident, the identity of the caller will be confidential if requested.

**Discussion:** Some ideas suggested were to limit the lighting on the court, restrict public access, get license plate numbers, encourage residents to observe the court and get involved by calling 911 immediately. No gangs have been observed there. We, as neighbors, should look out for one another and help solve our problems.

**Guest:** Wayne Smith, state representative. Harvey Road will be repaired in four to six weeks. DELDOT is interested in inserting the terrazzo crossings on Harvey Road.

**Discussion and response:** Resident hoped that the state will use porous pavement which is quieter and reduces skidding in wet weather (current pavement is porous). Representative thanked us for our interest.

**3. Communications:** Secretary read the following letter.

Village of Ardentown

February 13, 1996

To the Editor of the Arden Page

Re: Arden Page going on-line

During our regular Town Meeting, we discussed the issue of the Arden page going on-line and being available via computer. After a short discussion, it became clear that the Town was concerned about privacy and exposure of the material beyond our Arden boundaries. A motion was made and carried that the Arden Page not go on-line. The vote was 30 to 1 in favor of not going on line. The Town is comfortable with the way it has been distributed for years and does not wish to see it changed. Thank you for your years of service and best wishes to the incoming editor.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa Wilson Riblett, Secretary of Ardentown.

**Discussion and motion:** A motion was made and seconded to not put the Arden Page on-line.

Vote was taken and the motion was approved.

**4. Approval of January Town Minutes:** Vote was in favor to approve.

**5. Elections:** Bill Press asked that the meeting be turned over to the Registration Committee to distribute ballots for the election of new committee members and officers of the Town Assembly. One change was made on the ballot: Greg Gorrell substituted for Mark Taylor under the Community Planning Committee. The ballots were collected by the Registration Committee for the tally on Wednesday.

**6. Trustees Report:**

1. Cash and investments on hand as of February 29, 1996 were as follows:

Interest bearing bank balance .....	\$19, 072.60
Bank certificate of deposit.....	50,000.00
Arden Building and Loan shares .....	40,000.00
Total .....	\$109,072.60

2. Effective April 1, 1996, annual expenditures for staff salaries and office rent will be as follows:

Administrative Assistant .....	\$6,480.00
Secretary .....	2,256.00
Office rent.....	2,196.00

The above represents a total increase of slightly more than three (3) percent over last year.

3. The Trust has received a check for \$1000 as reimbursement for unauthorized removal of a large white oak tree from a leasehold.

4. The village financial statements are a part of this report.

Respectfully submitted, Shaul Gladstone, Sr. Trustee

Report approved.

Committee urged to submit blanket vouchers where appropriate for next fiscal year so that those checks can be paid. Trustee Shaul Gladstone mentioned that a reasonable conclusion to the cutting down of an Oak tree without permission had been reached between the trustees and leaseholders. **Discussion:** Did the idea of replanting of the tree come up?

The \$1000 penalty could go to the Community Planning Committee. Trustee must have authorization to do that.

Submitted by Shaul Gladstone, Trustee

Handout: See this page *Receipts* and page 4 *Expenditures*

**Motion:** Be it resolved that the \$2579 item shown in the annual audit payroll tax withheld and payable by the Village Center Fund to the General Fund be deleted. The effect of this resolution will be to increase the Village Center fund balance by the above amount and decrease the general fund balance by the same amount.

Motion passed.

### Receipts

VILLAGE OF ARDEN  
RECEIPTS & BANK BALANCES - 3/25/95 TO 2/29/96  
PRESENTED TO TOWN MEETING ON 3/25/96

BALANCE IN BANK MARCH 25, 95 \$208,980.46

#### RECEIPTS:

GRANTS	<u>0.00</u>
INTEREST & DIVIDENDS	<u>9,612.53</u>
LAND RENT:	
FISCAL YEARS, PAST	<u>500.00</u>
FISCAL YEARS, PRESENT	<u>116,302.57</u>
FISCAL YEARS, FUTURE	<u>4,541.81</u>
LATE PAYMENT INTEREST	<u>0.00</u>
MEADOW LANE RENT	<u>249.00</u>
MEMORIAL GARDEN DONATIONS	<u>885.00</u>
MISCELLANEOUS	<u>8,182.97</u>
RIGHTS OF WAY	
CABLE TV	<u>0.00</u>
ROADS	<u>2,774.45</u>
 SUBTOTAL	 <u>143,048.33</u>
INVESTMENTS, REDEEMED	+ <u>160,000.00</u>
INVESTMENTS, NEW	- <u>200,000.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>103,048.33</u>

RECEIPTS & STARTING BANK BALANCE	\$312,078.29
EXPENDITURES AGAINST BUDGET	- <u>292,956.19</u>
BALANCE IN BANK AS OF 2/29/96	<u>19,072.60</u>

INVESTMENT POSITION:	
ARDEN BUILDING & LOAN	\$ 40,000.00
BANK INSTRUMENTS	<u>50,000.00</u>
OTHER	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>90,000.00</u>

SIGNED: TRUSTEE Shaul Gladstone; ADMIN. ASS'T. Joe H. [Signature]



Expenditures

VILLAGE OF ARDEN  
EXPENDITURES AGAINST BUDGET - 3/25/95 TO 2/29/96  
PRESENTED TO TOWN MEETING ON 3/25/96

BUDGET ITEM	BUDGETED AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES F.Y TO DATE	EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT
<u>COMMITTEES:</u>			
ARCHIVES	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,233.47	\$ 350.00
BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER	1,460	1,409.71	0.00
<u>CIVIC:</u>			
COMMONS & FORESTS	13,000	11,755.99	0.00
GRANTS	0	0.00	0.00
ROADS	14,000	12,111.96	1,990.00
SPECIAL CLEAN-UP	2,000	1,077.48	0.00
TRASH COLLECTION	33,000	30,946.80	5,157.80
COMMUNITY PLANNING	1,000	216.17	95.19
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE	250	0.00	0.00
PLAYGROUND	1,100	878.05	63.72
REGISTRATION	2,000	2,172.09	612.10
<u>SAFETY:</u>			
GENERAL	800	238.16	21.40
TOWN WATCH COORDINATOR	2,100	1,925.00	350.00
TRAFFIC LIGHT	600	0.00	0.00
WELCOME HITHER	250	0.00	0.00
<u>SALARIES</u>			
ASSEMBLY SECRETARY	4,416	4,048.00	836.00
ASSEMBLY TREASURER	1,835	1,682.09	305.82
<u>OTHER LINE ITEMS:</u>			
CONTINGENCIES	2,000	0.00	0.00
<u>DONATION:</u>			
ACRA	700	700.00	0.00
ARDEN LIBRARY	400	400.00	0.00
ARDEN PAGE	450	450.00	0.00
FIRE COMPANIES	850	850.00	0.00
GILD HALL RENTAL	600	600.00	0.00
<u>TAXES:</u>			
NEW CASTLE COUNTY PROP.	53,000	52,494.24	0.00
SCHOOL	140,500	143,578.03	0.00
TELEPHONE	350	222.72	77.69
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE:</u>			
AUDITING	3,000	2,800.00	0.00
INSURANCE	6,500	6,433.00	361.00
LEGAL	1,000	0.00	0.00
OFFICE RENT	2,100	1,925.00	350.00
MISCELLANEOUS	1,000	1,927.59	436.41
PAYROLL TAXES	1,600	3,026.86	661.05
SALARY, ADMIN. ASST.	6,360	5,830.00	1,060.00
SALARY, SECRETARY	2,136	1,958.00	356.00
LESS ACCRUED TAXES	0	(1,034.22)	(188.04)
TOTAL	\$303,057	\$292,956.19	\$ 12,896.14

(NOTE: PERIOD COVERED IS FROM FIRST DAY OF FISCAL YEAR TO LAST DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING THE APPLICABLE TOWN MEETING.)

SIGNED: TRUSTEE Shirley H. Heston; ADMIN. ASS'T. Rae H. Gentry

7. **Archives:** We have ordered a steel flat file for the preservation of oversized items—posters, photos, paintings—with grant money from the Delaware State Archives Department. Thanks to Irene O'Connor for securing this grant.

The committee met with Mary Marconi, cultural preservation liaison for the Community Planning Preservation Project. We all enjoyed the Arden Oral History night on March 2 at the BWVC. Lot of good stories from varied Arden eras.

I am currently having the Arden Oral History copied. I don't know the individual cost yet but, if you are interested in your own copy, please let me know.

Submitted by Sally Hamburger, chairperson

Report approved.

8. **Advisory:** Members of the Advisory Committee met to discuss the March 25 Town Assembly agenda on March 4, 1996. New voucher forms, as designed by Town Secretary Connee McKinney, were presented.

The three-year budget forecast was presented and discussed. Discrepancies were identified for revision.

Jannie Stearns described the work of the Welcome Hither Committee. Plans to improve identification of new residents (both leaseholders and renters) were suggested. Advisory Committee believes that the importance of the Welcome Hither activities to the Arden community is substantial and should be routinely reported at Town Assembly.

A number of Community Planning concerns were presented and discussed at length, including textured concrete segments along Harvey Road, the advisability of designed forest paths, a forest plant inventory, code violations of the sewer project and future plans for the Avery property.

Trustees/Directors of all three Ardens have begun meeting every four months, to the mutual benefit of all of the communities.

Each committee chair in attendance reported on the status of nominee selection for the March election of members of standing committees.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Butler, chairperson

Report approved.

9. **Assessors:** The chairman, Aaron Hamburger, reported that two more public hearings are scheduled: Monday, May 6 and Tuesday, June 4 at 8:00 p.m. at the BWVC. Public is invited to comment. The assessors are in the process of determining a general approach to "full rental value." At the open meeting, we could discuss the two floodplain properties and if we should remove the 10% premium that they now pay for woods lots.

**Discussion and response:** Will you be discussing Lew Aumack's proposal for land value taxation? Come to Assessors meeting for a fuller discussion.

The report was accepted.

10. **Auditing:** The chairman, Ken Lipstein, had no report.

## Budget

Budget Forecast 98-00

Uillage of Arden Budget Forecast\* for Three Year Period 1997/1998-1999/2000  
 (\*In thousands of dollars 228,918 = \$228,918)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
	1994/95	1995/96	1995/96	1996/97	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00		NOTES
	ACTUAL**	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	PROJECTED	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST		
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
13										
14										
15										
16										
17										
18										
19										
20										
21										
22										
23										
24										
25										
26										
27										
28										
29										
30										
31										
32										
33										
34										
35										
36										
37										
38										
39										
40										
41										
42										
43										
44										
45										
46										
47										
48										
49										
50										
51										
52										
53										
54										
55										
56										
57										
58										
59										
60										
61										
62										
63										
64										
65										
66										
67										
68										
69										
70										
71										
72										
73										
74										
75										
76										
77										
78										
79										
80										
81										
82										
83										
84										
85										
86										
87										
88										
89										
90										
91										
92										
93										
94										
95										



11. **Budget:** The budget forecast was explained by the chairperson. The budget is just a planning document and not for vote now.

The Budget Committee, largely through the efforts of Marianne Cinaglia, has prepared its annual Three Year Budget Projection for the town's expenses. The format is slightly changed this year, with Column C using the numbers presented as projection for the 1996-1997 Budget. Column D has a combination of actual expenses and anticipated expenditures for this Fiscal Year just ending, and this provides a more accurate starting point for this report. Column E is a copy of the figures used in the 1996-1997 Budget presentation, and Column F is a revision of anticipated expenses and revenues based on later information.

It is anticipated that the payroll taxes for the salaries of the Town Official will become a part of the budget process. On Line 54 the Committee has projected the cost of these taxes for the next three years. Previously the Trustees has absorbed the cost of the taxes, but it is more appropriate that these taxes be a budgeted expense.

Some of the sources of information used for this report are listed on Lines 90-95.

Submitted by Larry Walker, chairperson

**Discussion:** A resident clarified that the assessors do not use projected budget numbers to assess.

**Handout:** See page 6 *Budget Forecast*.

Report approved.

12. **Buzz Ware Village Center Committee:** In spite of the harsh winter the BWVC has had heavy use since last town meeting, at times three different groups meeting on one night. Thirteen committee meetings were held. Community Planning presented four informational slide shows and talks, which were well attended and most enlightening. Yoga classes were held weekly though cancelled in March due to the teacher's health problems. We hope they will resume soon. Line dancing continues to be popular, every Wednesday in room 4 at 7:30, six sessions to date. The BWVC and Archives cosponsored an evening trip "down memory lane." A good turnout resulted in some wonderful and amusing recollections of life in Arden. The travelogue did not receive a large audience. Monthly play-reading remains popular. Our joint session with the Shakespeare Gild was followed by a well attended gala at the Gild Hall the next Saturday.

Our 7th annual Valentine making session broke a record for attendance. We even had three generations of one family making cards. The Sunshine Fund Sale, ably organized by Debbie Styles, earned \$150. One private birthday party was a rental.

Some of us have felt increasingly concerned about the number of senior citizens living in the three Ardens who may have needs that are not being met. We held a meeting on March 14 and I would like to ask Mary Brent Whipple to report on it.

The BWVC is sponsoring a forum on Tuesday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m. to meet the candidates for county council. Bob Weiner and Dick Cecil are scheduled to attend and, if any Democratic candidates have declared, they will be invited. For future information, please call Marianne Cinaglia.

Please remember that this Friday evening at 7:30 p.m., we will have "A Perspective on Cuba" slide show and talk by recent visitors to that country, Rick Reynolds, Rachel Greer, Dorothy Carroll, and Tom Colgan and, on Saturday night, the film series will feature Roman Polanski's "Macbeth."

We urge people of all ages to come to an Easter Basket Making session led by Cecilia Vore this Sunday, March 31 from 1:30-4:00. The baskets are made for older residents of the three Ardens. This activity is cosponsored by ACRA who organize the distribution after the ACRA Easter Egg hunt on the green.

Hand-in-Hand Child Care continues to do well. They have 27 children enrolled, some part and some full time. Ten of those children are from the Ardens. The committee gave them permission to have three tires installed in the toddler playground. Larry Walker has done this and this adds further interest for play. They express appreciation to the Ozers who donated a plastic slide. We are happy to see the Toddler Playground in use on the weekends and evening.

The YWCA has completed painting room 3. We supplied the paint, they, the labor. They have a new carpet and have hung curtains. If anyone knows of a desk going for donation, let me know, they can use one. They have submitted a proposal for the 1996-1997 school year. The committee is very pleased to have the room in use more hours. Their next contract will be adjusted to reflect their longer hours.

The usual minor maintenance problems have been corrected thanks to Mark Taylor who also took care of snow removal and de-icing. However, when the snow melted, we discovered a serious leak in the flat section over the janitor's closet. A temporary repair helped somewhat but this section of roof must be replaced as soon as possible to avoid more extensive interior damage. John Demsey has two quotes, one for \$1500 and one for \$1200. We are still waiting for the third bid. I would like to get authority from the town to proceed with this repair as soon as possible.

Mr. Johnson, our custodian, continued to do excellent work. As of the beginning of the coming fiscal year, he will be on salary, \$4000 per year.

Mark, John and I made a tour of the building and came up with a list of desired renovations. We have been trying to identify what type of tax-free status the village has so that we can begin to apply for grants. Our hope is to apply for a Community Development Fund Grant and then get matching funds from private foundations. However most private foundations limit their grants to groups which have a 501 3C status. Thus we cannot proceed any further at this time. We did propose the possibility of incorporating the BWVC under the directorship of the Trustees and the town but this was rejected. We continue to explore our possibilities.

**Discussion followed:** Resident mentioned that Arden has gotten grants from private foundations. Do not need 501 3C. A resident asked if the committee had the money for the roof repair. Chairperson said yes.

**Motion:** The BWVC Committee is authorized to make the necessary roof repairs.

Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Bean, chairperson

Report approved.

**Report on Senior Citizens Meeting:** Meeting was held at the BWVC in March 14, 1996 about concerns of senior citizens, particularly the frail elderly in the three Ardens. This came about due to neighbors concerns and questions about services and needs of those who live alone, who need help with activities of daily living.

Officer Julie Garbarino and another officer from the New Castle County police came to talk about the Senior Roll Call Helpline program and other services they offer. Flyers are on the table and we urge you to take one. According to the police, this has been a very successful program

At the meeting needs of the elderly were discussed and the suggestion of a survey came up. Transportation needs were brought up as an issue for many people. Plans are to obtain resource booklets put out by the Division of Aging and will be made available in the Library, BWVC and through Ruth Bean and Mary Brent Whipple. There may also be a call for individuals who maybe interested in volunteering for certain activities (snow shoveling,



transportation, shopping) to help seniors.

A follow-up meeting will be held at the BWVC on Wednesday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by Mary Brent Whipple

13. **Civic Committee:** The winter and new demands have been hard on our roads. You all know about the impact of this winter. A record amount was spent on snowplowing and there are many potholes which, if they don't receive attention soon, will become something worse. The new demands come from use of a large truck by our trash hauler, Homewaste. The section of the water tower road from Marsh to the chained-off area has broken up badly. This eight foot wide road must be rebuilt for a length of about 200 feet. In addition, this large vehicle has trouble making the sharp right turn from the Highway to Pond Lane. This intersection will have to be rebuilt. We are aware that the use of a larger truck is more economical and has certainly helped to keep our trash removal costs under control.

Eventually we expect to get a refund of \$1000 to \$1300 from the big snowstorm,

We will try to get a DELDOT grant for rebuilding the full length of Little Lane. This is not a heavily traveled road, but it needs attention and we have put it off for two years. The proper way to do the job is to remove the existing pavement and rebuild the road. In this way, we can get a proper job rather than a patchwork, and we can re-expose the curbstones.

There has been a lot of tree work needed. Much of it was in our forests where several large, mature trees have fallen. Some of the work was required to keep the fire lane open and several large trees were blown down across the south branch of Naamans Creek. They had to be removed to keep from causing a jam and a flood.

Although we missed the fall leaf cleanup of roads because of the early winter, Bob Osborne who does this work for us feels his vacuum system has enough power to suck up dry leaves, wet leaves, and monkey balls. We have asked him to do this work now.

**Discussion:** A resident asked the committee if Homewaste could be asked to send smaller trucks. Another resident asked if the recycling participation was down. Was there any feedback from Homewaste on participation from residents. Some problems were discussed about the regular trash trucks removing the recycling material before the recycling truck arrives particularly if the trash truck comes around before the recycling truck. Committee asked for residents to report problems, and they will look into the above problems. A resident asked if when Little Lane is repaved whether the utility lines could be buried at that time. Committee estimated the cost to be 5 times more if the lines are buried. A resident complimented the committee on the good job done on snowplowing this winter.

**Old Business:** There was an explanation of the third reading of the National Flood Insurance Ordinance. Marianne Cinaglia explained some of the technical matters involved: since only two properties are involved, Arden could probably regulate itself, Arden must have a permit fee to cover fees to and independent engineer to make sure Arden conforms to the regulations.

**Discussion:** A resident read several items from the ordinance to express concern over the impact on Arden: building regulation not limited to structures (what if we upgrade the pool area), must have approval by town for "start of construction," penalties that include imprisonment for 10 days, etc. The 2 leaseholds affected by the floodplain regulations spoke. One mentioned that their property had already been elevated. Could land rent be lowered to reflect the floodplain location? There is precedence for negative factors on leaseholds. For vote there was a request for a secret ballot. Voted was not in favor of secret ballot.

**Motion:** Second reading of ordinance. See this page *Draft Ordinance No.*

Vote taken.

Ordinance not approved.

*Draft Ordinance National Flood Insurance*

**Draft Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_**

An ordinance establishing a flood plain area and requiring all persons, partnerships, businesses, and corporations to obtain a permit for development and the construction, substantial improvement or relocation of any building or structure; providing for certain minimum standards for constructions within the flood plain area and setting forth special procedures for submissions and approval of plans; and establishing penalties for any person who fails to comply with the requirements or provisions of this ordinance.

Be it enacted and ordained by the **Village of Arden, New Castle County, Delaware**, as follows:

**Article I: General Provisions**

**Section 1.1: Intent**

The intent of this Ordinance is to:

- A. Promote the general health, welfare, and safety of the community.
- B. Encourage the utilization of appropriate construction practices in order to prevent or minimize flood damage in the future.
- C. Minimize danger to public health and safety by protecting water supply, sanitary sewage disposal, and natural drainage.
- D. Reduce financial burdens imposed on the community, its governmental units and its residents, by preventing the unwise design and construction of development in areas subject to flooding.



**14. Community Planning Committee:** The chairperson had information available on a series of discussions organized by the committee.

**Handout:** See pages 15–16 *Events Arden's long range plan for communal land and Long Range Planning Update*

**I. Introduction** In late January, ACPC received a commitment from Village Assembly to participate in the long-range planning process for the communal lands. We are now in the midst of informing ourselves about changes affecting us, and learning multiple ways of managing that change in varying situations.

For the record of town meeting, I hereby provide outcomes of the 14 meetings of the last nine weeks. When the minutes arrived at your home, please read these expert opinions.

The idea exchange continues. The schedule for next month was available at the door—printed on yellow paper.

Our committee welcomes comment at any time. In two weeks, we've scheduled one morning and one evening forum, or deliberative dialogue, specifically to get residents thoughts, ideas, and reactions to the planning process and the policy and goal statements we have drafted.

**II.** However, the long range planning process brought to our attention some **items which need immediate attention** from the village, all of which are impacts on us from the outside. Photographs and charts are posted around the room to illustrate these items.

- Add "traffic calming practices" for improved safety on Harvey Road. In the short run, this means painting narrower traffic lanes. In the long run, it means creation of pedestrian crossing of textured and colored concrete. It always means vigilant observation of the 25 mph speed limit by residents. We have the power to make the road safer by our own actions.
- Monitor sewer project for compliance with restoration and construction contracts. Letter writing campaign has had the impact of increased vigilance by the state and federal government. Continued citizen monitoring is essential to proper restoration before the construction equipment leaves at the end of June. When the poison ivy leaves appear, I will be unable to monitor the construction. Please talk to me about how you can pick up where I left off.
- Monitor widening of Naamans Road, particularly its impact on Naamans Creek. At the special town meeting, we had an introduction to construction practices such as silt fences, storm water basins, normal volume vs. storm runoff. Our neighbors in Hanby Woods are dismayed at the impact of the project on their woodlands. We must be watchful of its impact on us.
- Formally request that Perkins Run be recognized on USGS maps as the perennially flowing stream this it is. This will allow DNREC to help us protect Sherwood Forest which adjoins the stream.
- We are continuing to investigate the wisdom of increasing the protected status of our woodlands by means of a conservation easement.
- Lastly, the Arden Community Planning Committee has contacted the owner of the five acres of neighboring wooded land which borders Sherwood Forest from near the water tower to Marsh Road. She has indicated that she definitely will proceed with the planned development. Therefore this committee believes the town should proceed immediately to study our options pertaining to the property.



**Motion: Avery Property Task Force**

Whereas, an 18 lot residential development is planned for the 5 acre Avery property on Marsh Road adjacent to the southwestern border of Arden, we move that the Town Chairman appoint a task force to study the issues and develop recommendations to deal with the impact this development will have on Sherwood Forest and Perkins Run. As necessary, the Task Force is authorized to maintain a non-adversary dialogue with the owner of the Avery property or the owner's agents.

Motion approved.

Submitted by Beverly Barnett, chair

Report approved.

**III. Some secondary effects of the long range planning process:**

- Get-a-lawyer advice from Hays Butler last December, and again from DNS re sewer project, and 5 acre parcel
- We are not seeking this leaseholder advice, but we are getting it. Zipperer—start with trees, tree roots, tree canopy, within your own leasehold. Shaver—start with runoff from your own roof and driveway.
- People are interested in working on communal lands without committing to two years on the Civic Committee. Under the direction of Civic Committee, is there a way to use a task force approach to issues such as forest inventory, replacing non-native aggressive plants, identifying rare plants, filtering street runoff before it reaches the streams, tracking down source of blue-green algae growth?

**IV. Arden's long range plan for communal lands****Jan. 31—Thomas Buchter, Winterthur**

- Best outcome of a long range plan is a procedural manual, a living document.
- Start with a "vision" stated in the simplest terms.
- Then define the design intent of each area. Intent will tell how to care for it.
- Specifications for areas will become communications tool.

**Feb. 2—Herb Inden, Delaware Planning Office**

- Write down the primary concerns of Arden for the immediate future, both physical and cultural
- Then the State Planning Office can bring to bear the appropriate resources for addressing those concerns

**Feb. 6—DNREC, Div. of Parks and Recreation****Tim Kaden, Kyle Gulbranson—Land Preservation Specialists**

- To protect Arden from outside impact, consider a conservation easement for Sherwood Forest, and nature preserve for Arden forest.
- Maybe to our advantage to involve neighboring undeveloped lands in gaining the same level of protection.

**Feb. 12—Constance Zipperer, Urban Forester**

- Mature trees are the feature which characterizes Arden's landscape.
- Care of mature trees: inspect root zones, trunk damage, crown die back; practice mulching, fertilization, pruning.
- Replace mature trees: consider tree height, crown spread, root zone in relation to utility lines and paving. Then think about ornamental features.
- Start by thinking of the trees on your own leasehold.

**Feb. 22—Earl Shaver, Environmental Engineer, DNREC,  
Division Solid & Waste Conservation, Sediment Management Methods**

- The State is alarmed about the impact of increase runoff in New Castle County, and is eager to stop further degradation
- There are many tried and tested procedures available to Arden: sand trap for Arden Club renovation, stepped puddles for path erosion, stone weirs to slow runoff.
- Deterioration of sewers since 1962 could be cause of excess algae growth and foam in Perkins Run area. Water is 44° in February.
- Proper "blue line" designation of Perkins Run will make it "waters of USA" and prevent conduit on 5 acres upstream of Sherwood Forest.

**Feb. 26—Susan Welles, Delaware Nature Society Stewardship Program**

- Discrepancies between NCC DPW re: the sewer projects and what we see on the ground, especially regarding restoration of native plants and use of silt fences.
- DNS sees path erosion and compacting of stream banks plus blue-green algae growth as the current major problems in the Arden Woods.
- DNS advocates removal of our woodlands of plants such as Norway maple, multiflora rose, English ivy, Japanese pachysandra, and periwinkle, followed by replanting with native ground covers, bushes and understory trees such as Christmas fern, May apple, bloodroot, viburnums, spice bush, and ironwood.

**Feb. 28—Richard Vetter, Edith Carlson, Greenways,  
DELDOT protect engineer for Harvey Road resurfacing**

- Current paint markings give false sense of security and wear away in 2–3 years.
- Major problems are 1) speeds in excess of 25 mph and 2) heavy traffic volumes at morning and evening rush hours.
- Stamped paving surface can have traffic calming effect and gateway sense of place in the Ardens.

**Feb. 29—Lorraine Fleming, Susan Welles, Elaine Butler, DNS Stewardship Review**

- DNS is not advocacy organization
- DNS can give witness to what they observed when we bring it to their attention
- NCC DPW may not have obtained the required permits to change the course of Naamans Creek (which is "blue lined"), or to fill in the wetlands
- State and federal enforcement may lead to better restoration, and fewer future infractions.

**Feb. 29—Forest Path Design, Denise Husband, Landscape Architect**

- More paths along stream banks, in flood plain, and on tree roots than expected
- Master plan for path requires delineation of streambeds, floodplains, erosion potential, rare plants, leaseholds.
- Designed path can minimize impact, vary walking surface, make extensive use of branch paths to the stream bank and other vistas, maintain natural look.

**March 9—Thomas Buchter's guided tour of Winterthur**

- Start at the perimeter of property and work inward toward a cultivated center. Cultivated garden is idealized version of exterior forest. Prune to enhance natural shapes. Weed to stabilize plant populations. Uncomplicated consistency is best.
- Protect vernacular architecture, such as the Memorial Garden spring house

**Feb. 22—Earl Shaver, Environmental Engineer, DNREC,  
Division Solid & Waste Conservation, Sediment Management Methods**

- The State is alarmed about the impact of increase runoff in New Castle County, and is eager to stop further degradation
- There are many tried and tested procedures available to Arden: sand trap for Arden Club renovation, stepped puddles for path erosion, stone weirs to slow runoff.
- Deterioration of sewers since 1962 could be cause of excess algae growth and foam in Perkins Run area. Water is 44° in February.
- Proper "blue line" designation of Perkins Run will make it "waters of USA" and prevent conduit on 5 acres upstream of Sherwood Forest.

**Feb. 26—Susan Welles, Delaware Nature Society Stewardship Program**

- Discrepancies between NCC DPW re: the sewer projects and what we see on the ground, especially regarding restoration of native plants and use of silt fences.
- DNS sees path erosion and compacting of stream banks plus blue-green algae growth as the current major problems in the Arden Woods.
- DNS advocates removal of our woodlands of plants such as Norway maple, multiflora rose, English ivy, Japanese pachysandra, and periwinkle, followed by replanting with native ground covers, bushes and understory trees such as Christmas fern, May apple, bloodroot, viburnums, spice bush, and ironwood.

**Feb. 28—Richard Vetter, Edith Carlson, Greenways,  
DELDOT protect engineer for Harvey Road resurfacing**

- Current paint markings give false sense of security and wear away in 2–3 years.
- Major problems are 1) speeds in excess of 25 mph and 2) heavy traffic volumes at morning and evening rush hours.
- Stamped paving surface can have traffic calming effect and gateway sense of place in the Ardens.

**Feb. 29—Lorraine Fleming, Susan Welles, Elaine Butler, DNS Stewardship Review**

- DNS is not advocacy organization
- DNS can give witness to what they observed when we bring it to their attention
- NCC DPW may not have obtained the required permits to change the course of Naamans Creek (which is "blue lined"), or to fill in the wetlands
- State and federal enforcement may lead to better restoration, and fewer future infractions.

**Feb. 29—Forest Path Design, Denise Husband, Landscape Architect**

- More paths along stream banks, in flood plain, and on tree roots than expected
- Master plan for path requires delineation of streambeds, floodplains, erosion potential, rare plants, leaseholds.
- Designed path can minimize impact, vary walking surface, make extensive use of branch paths to the stream bank and other vistas, maintain natural look.

**March 9—Thomas Buchter's guided tour of Winterthur**

- Start at the perimeter of property and work inward toward a cultivated center. Cultivated garden is idealized version of exterior forest. Prune to enhance natural shapes. Weed to stabilize plant populations. Uncomplicated consistency is best.
- Protect vernacular architecture, such as the Memorial Garden spring house



- As natural habitat disappears, we need to provide as much as possible. Watersheds inherently have a significant management responsibility. Connect patches of woodland to give birds the contiguous cover they need.

**March 12—William Schenck, Delaware Geological Survey**

- Grey clay is decomposed granite. The rocks we see will one day be clay.
- Arden pluton (bulge of magma) existed here when Brandywine blue stone was offshore in the Pangeac sea. Can see evidence of blue stone intrusion into Arden pluton in Perkins Run rocks.

**March 21—Duane Green, Penns Woods, 1682—present**

- Forest restoration is critical to maintaining a biologically diverse world. We must act to prevent further loss of species.
- Forest health is measured in part by the "stand structure"—are the next generations of trees present in varying sizes from pencil sapling to post size to pole size and then mature trees.
- Forest health is measured by the health of the herbaceous ground cover, the twiggy undergrowth, shrubs, understory trees, and the canopy.

**March 22—Role of Historic Preservation In Community Revitalization**

- Historic preservation is tied to economic development in most towns, and now includes landscapes and humble vernacular buildings (barns, sheds, spring house).
- Delaware's historic buildings and landscapes are disappearing rapidly. Once they are gone, they are gone. Arden should make an effort to preserve its history and culture as seen in its buildings and landscape.
- Reuse is stressed. Weave Shop and Gild Hall are perfect examples. However, special care must be taken to preserve the historic aspect in the process of renovation and reuse.

*Events Arden's long range plan for communal land*

events Arden Community Planning Committee  
long range plan for communal land co-chair - Beverly Barnett & Mary Marconi

March 28 - Part II - Trees in the Community: policy, goals, plans of action  
Constance Zipperer, Urban Forester, Delaware Dept. of Agriculture  
Thursday BWVC room 4, 7:30-8:30 PM

April 1 - Wildlife Habitat: Birds, foxes, and cougars share Arden with us. How can we make cohabitation mutually rewarding in the way of native plants, critical land mass, wildlife corridors. (Well, maybe the cougar should stay in the woods.)  
Peg Baseden, Master Gardener, New Castle County Extension Service  
Monday BWVC room 4, 7:30-8:30 PM

April 15 -- Neighborhood Greening Projects. The who, what, where, when, why and how of greening projects. What DCH can provide in the way of technical advice, materials, tools.  
Marij Wiegman of Delaware Center for Horticulture.  
Monday, Lower Gild Hall, 7:30 PM

April 20 - Forest Inventory. What is the composition of our woods -- tree species, age, canopy, understory, shrubs, groundcover.  
Duane L. Greene, Registered Professional Forester  
Saturday BWVC room 4. 9-10:30 classroom training,  
10:30-noon Sherwood Forest.

April 22 - Exotic Aliens: Are they taking over our Arden woods? A game plan for restoring our woods. What's a manageable first step? Then what?  
Jim White, Delaware Nature Center Property Manager/Naturalist.  
Monday, BWVC room 4, 7:30 PM

April 27 - Arden Woods Clean-Up. Meet at the Water Tower in the Sherwood Forest, or in the Arden Woods. Bring trash bag and gloves. Saturday 9 AM - noon. Raindate, Sunday April 28.

April 29 - What could the world's leading research center on fresh water streams know about Perkins Run and Naaman's Creek? Do streamside forests affect water quality? What is the affect of native versus foreign tree species in streamside areas?

Kirstin Travers, education coordinator, Stroud Water Research Center of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.  
Monday, BWVC room 4, 7:30 PM

April 30 - Wildflower Walk.  
Bernie Brachman, Arden Civic Committee woodlands consultant, and Susan Welles, Natural Areas Coordinator, Delaware Nature Society.  
Tuesday 5-6 PM, meet at corner of Green and Cherry Lanes.

May 2 - What rare plants, reptiles, and insects are likely to live in Arden?  
How would we know if they are here? How would we protect them?  
Lynn Broadus, Ph.D., coordinator, Delaware Natural Heritage Program.  
Thursday, BWVC room 4, 7:30 PM

### Long Range Planning Update

#### Long Range Planning Update

The Community Planning Committee respectfully submits the following draft of the policy/mission statement and goals for the long range planning process that was approved at the January Town Meeting. Since this is the first step in Arden's long range planning process, we would like to provide a forum for the citizens of Arden to present their thoughts, ideas, and reactions. Meetings will be held on Monday, April 8th at 10:30 a.m. and on Thursday, April 11th at 7:30 both at the Buzz Ware Village Center.

#### Draft of Long Range Plan Policy Statement:

As a result of issues generated by governmental, private and commercial interests, the Community Planning Committee (CPC) presents this statement of long term intentions:

For the woodlands of the village:

- to protect wild areas in their natural state to the degree that is best.
- to prevent damage to creeks/streams from neighboring areas and ourselves.

For the public open spaces and gardens:

- to maximize beauty through care and planting that favors nature's creatures and residents' desired uses, and which is low in maintenance demands.

For the Town's passageways (streets, streetsides and paths):

- to maintain design methods commensurate with needs, aesthetics and ecology.

For the townspeople:

- to secure an environment which provides a cultural haven in harmony with nature.

#### Draft of Long Range Plan Goals:

Goal: To enhance, maintain, recover, protect our natural resources (i.e. woodlands, wildlife habitat, streams, etc.)

Goal: To improve water conservation and quality, and manage water runoff.

Goal: To protect Arden's buffer zones.

Goal: To maintain and enhance recreational uses of communal lands.

Goal: To provide educational resources for both children and adults on our physical and cultural heritage.

Please come to share your ideas. We need your input in order to have a strong, effective and realistic plan.

- Mary L. Marconi



- 15. Legislative Reference Committee:** After the elections tonight and after the committee chairs are elected we will be ready to publish the Arden Handbook. Please let us know as soon as each committee has chosen a chair.

Submitted by Hugh Roberts, chairperson

Report approved.

- 16. Playground Committee:** The Playground Committee held their first spring inspection of all playground equipment on Saturday, March 16.

1. One poorly anchored swing chain and one set of worn and rusted swing chains failed to pass inspection.

2. The chain basketball nets were tangled nearly beyond repair.

3. Equipment should be painted this spring.

All the discovered defects have been corrected. If they continue to tangle, the metal basketball nets will be replaced with nylon ones.

For the committee, Richard L. Bloom

Report approved.

- 17. Registration Committee:** The number of eligible voters is 392 as of 3/25/96. There are 16 new residents.

The expenses for the year will be somewhat higher than budgeted. This is a reflection of the costs for notices and mailing for the special town meeting held on March 11, 1996 on the proposed flood insurance.

We will count the ballots for tonight's committee and officer elections on Wednesday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the BWVC.

Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth Varley, chair

Report approved.

- 18. Safety Committee:** Mail box numbers for the Sherwood side of Arden will be finished as soon as it warms up a bit.

The signage around town has been evaluated and the corrections will be done also as the ground thaws and it warms up. This includes clearing signs of obstructions and adjusting for better visibility.

We have done an inventory of signs and posts on hand and will upgrade to maintain what we need for future additions and replacement.

I met with Rep. Wayne Smith to follow up on the request for a control sign over the intersection of Marsh and Harvey to help prevent wrong way entry from Sherwood to Marsh or Harvey. His office has informed me that Steve Truitt from DELDOT will follow up and get it done. The one way sign on Wayne Knotts corner will have a companion mounted on the "Arden Steak" wall to remind persons, and a yellow grid with letters will be painted on the road surface reading from Sherwood. This will hopefully reduce the number of vehicles re-entering the intersection from the sub shop as well as others. The police will also more easily ticket those who ignore the signs.

The recent events at the BWVC basketball court (see BWVC Report) and commons should be addressed at this town assembly. It raises questions about access and accountability, as well as, the safety of our residents.

I am withdrawing from active membership on the Safety Committee after 8 or 9 years, but I will maintain my vigilance and input regarding the safety concerns of Arden and its residents.

Respectfully submitted, Peter Renzetti, chair

Report approved.

Residents must get involved in the community and make a call when potential vandalism or robbery is observed. Police need more information from the community to help to address problem. Recounted a incident tonight with a motorbike that was stopped, the police summoned, and a complaint was filed.

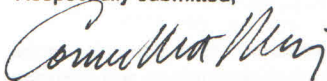
**Discussion:** Wild behavior is not new to Arden. Perhaps permits to play on court. A meeting of Safety, BWVC and trustees is scheduled. Teens should be asked too. Perhaps school property is different than green since it is attached to the BWVC and not part of public land / green. School was given to the village by the state. Common lands were deeded to the village by the trustees. There is a delicate balance between use and abuse. Resident asked Safety to look at possibility of stop signs at Miller, Walnut, and Lower Lane. Resident asked about no right turn on red at Marsh and sub shop.

**Response:** County wants traffic to continue to flow at that corner because there is not separate left hand turn lane. Since Sherwood is one-way, that intersection is not considered at 5-point intersection. A resident thanked chair for his vigilance.

19. **Good and Welfare:** Resident reminded us to pick up our trash and return our trash cans after they have been emptied by Homewaste.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Connee Wright McKinney  
Secretary, Village of Arden